

[8th February 1924]

Plague in Tuticorin.

331 Q.—Rao Bahadur CRUZ FERNANDEZ: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the sudden outbreak of plague in Tuticorin in an indigenous form;

(b) what preventive measures are taken to stamp out the disease and by which authority;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a conflict of authorities in the matter of taking measures under the new Plague Regulations published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 10th July 1923, so far as Tuticorin is concerned, where there is a Civil Surgeon and also a Health Officer;

(d) whether it is a fact that the plague regulations do not define the duties and functions devolving respectively on the Chairman of the Municipal Council, the Municipal Health Officer and the Revenue Divisional Officer; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the said officers are greatly handicapped in taking *immediate* measures on the outbreak of plague and that in consequence one officer is expecting the other to take the initiative on any particular measure?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The reports received from the Collector of Tinnevely and the Assistant Director of Public Health are placed on the table.*

(c) The answer is in the negative.

(d) Under the Standing Orders the general control of all measures connected with plague is vested in the Collector of the district unless the Government in any case otherwise direct; and all officers of Government, of local boards and of municipalities and all plague officers must obey and carry out the Collector's orders.

(e) The answer is in the negative.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“With reference to clause (b), will the Government be pleased to issue orders to the District Collector of Tinnevely to pay, out of the funds under the discretion grants placed at his disposal, a certain amount of remuneration to the labouring classes, men, women and children in order to get themselves inoculated?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“Sir, it is left to the discretion of the Collector to distribute the fund.”

Religious and Charitable Endowments.

The Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Bill.

332 Q.—Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(1) the number of meetings held in various places for the expression of protest against, and disapproval of, the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Bill;

(2) the number of memorials of protest received by the Government in regard to the measure; and

* Printed as Appendix III on pages 443-446 infra.

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(3) the number of deputations which approached the Government and which were allowed to wait on His Excellency the Governor to represent their protest against and disapproval of the proposed measure?

A.—(1) The Government have no information.

(2) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 78.

(3) Two.

The issue of a whip to nominated non-official members.

333 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether it is not a fact that he issued a whip to nominated non-official members of the Legislative Council to support the "Government" on the "No-confidence" motion?

A.—The answer is in the affirmative.

Education.

The Satyamangalam Elementary Girls' School.

334 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Satyamangalam Elementary Girls' School is located in a rented building and that the owner objects very strongly to the admission of girls belonging to the depressed classes;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Satyamangalam Elementary Taluk Board School for girls receives provincial subsidy; and

(c) why no steps have been taken up to this as regards the admission of girls into the Satyamangalam Elementary Taluk Board School?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information but have called for a report.

Admission of depressed classes pupils in Singanallur Higher Elementary School.

335 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Headmaster of the Singanallur Higher Elementary School, Coimbatore Taluk Board, refused admission to six young men belonging to the depressed classes when the boys approached him some months back, with their transfer certificates, after completing their full elementary course in the Panchama Irrugur and Vellalur Elementary Schools, and that the boys were obliged to go and join the Training School in Coimbatore to undergo primary training at least; and

(b) whether it is a fact that this Singanallur Higher Elementary School, Coimbatore taluk, receives provincial subsidy?

A.—(a) The Government have no information but have called for a report.

(b) Yes.